The Voice of Ireland

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THE VOICE OF IRELAND

Being an Interview with

JOHN REDMOND, M.P.

and some Messages from Representative Irishmen regarding the Sinn Fein Rebellion

THOMAS NELSON & SONS,
35 and 36 Paternoster Row, London, E.C.
EDINBURGH. NEW YORK. PARIS.

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INTERVIEW WITH

MR. REDMOND,

APRIL, 1916.

New York, Friday.

Mr. John Redmond, M.P., has made the following statement with regard to the events in Dublin to a London representative of the Central News of America :—

My first feeling, of course, on hearing of this insane movement was one of horror, discouragement, almost despair. I asked myself whether Ireland, as so often before in her tragic history, was to dash the cup of liberty from her lips ; was the insanity of a small section of her people once again to turn all her marvellous victories of the last few years into irreparable defeat, and to send her back, on the very eve of her final recognition as a free nation, into another long night of slavery, incalculable suffering, weary and uncertain struggle ?

(B502) 609777

Look at the Irish position to-day. In the short space of forty years she has by a Constitutional movement made an almost unbrokenly triumphant march from pauperism and slavery to prosperity and freedom. She has won back the possession of the Irish land; she has stayed emigration; she at last began an era of national prosperity. Finally, she succeeded in placing on the Statute Book the greatest charter of freedom ever offered her since the days of Grattan. Is all this to be lost?

AN INEVITABLE CHOICE.

When the war came she made a choice which was inevitable, if she was to be true to all the principles which she had held through all her history, and which she had just so completely vindicated on her own soil—namely, the rights of small nations; the sacred principle of nationality; liberty and democracy. Moreover, the nations for which through all her history she had felt the sympathy that came from common principles and common aspirations were trampled, as she in her time had been trampled, under the iron heel of arrogant force. What has Ireland suffered in the past which Poland, Alsace, Belgium and Serbia have not suffered at the hands of Germany, and, I may

add also, that portion of the soil of France, her old friend and Ally, which is in the hands of Germany? What has been the record of Germany but the suppression of nationality, of freedom, and of language—in short, the suppression of all the things for which for centuries Ireland has struggled, the victory of which Ireland has achieved? Take the case of Belgium. Has there not been there that same ruthless shedding of the blood of priests and people that is part of Ireland's own history?

Leave the question of principle out, and consider the question only of the mere interests of Ireland herself. What did the situation demand? Neutrality? That was impossible. Hostility to the just cause of the Allies? Is there a sane man in Ireland who does not see this meant the drowning of the newly-won liberties of Ireland in Irish blood? Be these views right or wrong, this was the opinion of the overwhelming majority of the Irish people; it was the opinion which thousands of Irish soldiers have sealed with their blood by dying in the cause of the liberty of Ireland and of the world. But anyhow it was the opinion of Ireland, and surely I need not argue the principle, especially with anybody who professes himself to be a Home Ruler, that the policy of Ireland must be decided by Ireland

herself. That is a principle which has been accepted by the Irish race everywhere. The millions of our people in the United States and elsewhere whose generous devotion has helped us so largely to win our victories for the Motherland of the race have always accepted it. However bounteous their help, never have they denied the right of Ireland to choose her policy for herself.

A LAST BLOW AT HOME RULE.

That doctrine has been contested only by the very same men who to-day have tried to make Ireland the cat's-paw of Germany. In all our long and successful struggle to obtain Home Rule we have been thwarted and opposed by that same section. We have won Home Rule, not through them, but in spite of them. This wicked move of theirs was their last blow at Home Rule. It was not half as much treason to the cause of the Allies as treason to the cause of Home Rule.

This attempted deadly blow at Home Rule, carried on through this section, is made the more wicked and the more insolent by this fact—that Germany plotted it, Germany organised it, Germany paid for it. So far as Germany's share in it is concerned, it is a German invasion of

Ireland, as brutal, as selfish, as cynical as Germany's invasion of Belgium. Blood has been shed, and if Ireland has not been reduced to the same horrors as Belgium, with her starving people, her massacred priests, her violated convents, it is not the fault of Germany.

And a final aggravation of the movement is this. The misguided and insane young men who have taken part in this movement in Ireland have risked, and some of them lost, their lives. But what am I to say of those men who have sent them into this insane and anti-patriotic movement while they have remained in the safe remoteness of American cities? I might add that this movement has been set in motion by this same class of men at the very moment when America is demanding reparation for the blood of innocent American men and women and children shed by Germans; and thus are guilty of double treason—treason to the generous land that received them, as well as to the land which gave them birth.

DUBLIN AND HULLUCH.

Is it not an additional horror that on the very day when we hear that men of the Dublin Fusiliers have been killed by Irishmen in the streets of Dublin, we receive the news of how

the men of the 16th Division—our own Irish Brigade, and of the same Dublin Fusiliers—had dashed forward and by thcir unconquerable bravery retaken the trenches that the Germans had won at Hulluch ? Was therc ever such a picture of the tragedy which a small section of Irish faction had so often inflicted on the fairest hopes and the bravest deeds of Ireland ?

As to the final result. I do not believe that this wicked and insane movement will achieve its ends. The German plot has failed. The majority of the people of Ireland retain their calmness, fortitude and unity. They abhor this attack on their intercsts, their rights, their hopes, their principles. Home Rule has not been destroyed ; it remains indestructible.

WORLD-WIDE CONDEMNATION BY LOYAL IRISHMEN.

The following are a few of the resolutions in which Irishmen—of all shades of opinion—at home and throughout the world, express their condemnation of the insurrection, their deep sorrow at the loss of life in which it has resulted, and pledge their loyalty and support to the British Government in the prosecution of the War.

IN IRELAND.

ABBEYLEIX.

"The Abbeyleix District Council, by unanimous resolution, records its abhorrence of the Rising, and pleads for clemency for those implicated."

BAILIEBORO'.

The Bailieboro' branch of the United Irish League moved a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, deploring the sad incidents which occurred in Dublin during Easter week, strongly condemning the leaders of such an uncalled-for rebellion, and regretting that the young men who joined in such a movement did not follow the advice of Mr. Redmond.

BALLINASLOE.

The Ballinasloe Board of Guardians at their last meeting passed a resolution expressing their thorough condemnation of the action of those who have brought such misery on their country by their insane attempt at rebellion, instigated, they believe, by Germany, the ruthless oppressor of small nationalities, in defence of which, and

of world-wide liberty, so many of their countrymen had shed their blood on the battlefields of the Continent.

BALLYBOFEY.

A.O.H.—Resolution : " That we, the members of the A.O.H., Division 149, Ballybofey, abhor and detest the reckless rioting of insane insurrectionists and fanatical factionists in Dublin ; we regard it as a sinister blow aimed at Home Rule, and we not only welcome but insist on a searching enquiry into all its causes, as we are confident that when discovered the master mind at the back of it will, as usual in Irish history, be found in the elevated ranks of the enemies of Ireland ; we renew our confidence in Mr. John E. Redmond and the Irish Party and assure him of our unswerving loyalty on all occasions ; we also extend our sympathy to the citizens of Dublin in the serious loss they have sustained."

BALLYCASTLE.

Resolution : " That we view with horror the outbreak in Dublin of a meaningless and wanton rebellion against the interests of our country. An insignificant minority—poor dupes—have tried to defeat the noble object of peace and reconciliation when it was almost accomplished.

Brave Irish soldiers are dying at the front in defence of true liberty, and at the very moment of the rising in Dublin the 16th Irish Division (the Irish Brigade) was covering itself with glory at Loos. Their heroism shames all wreckers of Ireland's cause—the guilt lies heavy on the leaders of the outbreak."

BLACKROCK.

At a meeting of the Blackrock Urban Council, a resolution was passed expressing heartfelt reprobation of the sad and mischievous revolt which had taken place, and which had unfortunately caused so much loss of life and such disaster and destruction in the city; heartily approving of Mr. John Redmond's attitude in connection with the calamity which had befallen the country.

CARLOW.

District Council.—Resolution: "That we, in common with other public bodies in Ireland, desire to express our abhorrence of the appalling crime committed on Ireland by the terrible incidents of the recent rebellion. It was treason to the constitutional cause, to its leader, Mr. J. Redmond, who has led us so far and so well, to the 150,000 gallant Irishmen, who are heroically devoting their lives to save Ireland from the

ravages that have desolated France, Belgium and Serbia, and to every hope and aspiration of true Irishmen. That we are ready to assist the authorities as far as in our power to eradicate now and for ever the elements of disorder in Ireland, and we wish publicly to express our appreciation of Mr. J. Redmond's attitude recently in the House of Commons, and to assure him that he has nobly voiced the feelings of every man in Ireland, who loves his country, and heart and soul they are with him in his every effort to restore peace and tranquility to our sorely-afflicted country. We express our deepest sympathy with the people of Dublin in the great calamity which has befallen them by the destruction of beautiful portions of their ancient and proud city and in the trying ordeal through which they have passed."

CARRICKMACROSS.

Board of Guardians.—Resolution : "That we deeply deplore the sad incidents that have occurred in Dublin and other districts during the past week, and, while we desire to place on record our highest condemnation of the action precipitated by a number of hot-headed revolutionaries and socialists, we appeal to the authorities to act leniently towards the rank and

file—men who were only dupes of their leaders and who were led into this movement under false pretences. In this sad affair we desire to assure Mr. J. E. Redmond of our whole-hearted loyalty, and that we will remain steadfast to him and his Party, knowing well that his policy is the only one that stands for the betterment of the country and its people."

CASTLEBAR.

Rural Council.—Resolution: "That we, the Council of the Rural District of Castlebar, hereby register our deep regret for and resentment against the deplorable and insane action of a section of Volunteers in this country who, at this time of terrible crisis in her history, seized the opportunity to disrupt the country, to precipitate civil war, to discredit the Irish Party and the Irish Leader, and to bring irreparable damage and disaster to our prospects of prosperity and progress. We deplore that a body of irresponsible men in this country, who have no interest with the peasantry of our land, should, for some reason we cannot understand and for a grievance we do not know of, throw their misguided dupes into the vortex of civil war as fodder for the weapons of their own brothers and soldiers under arms, who have for nearly two years been

fighting bravely against a powerful foreign enemy for the protection of us all. The trade of our country is upset, and in imminent danger of complete destruction, and we have been brought up against a clear view of the ruin that can and may be brought about by their action."

Urban Council.—Castlebar Urban Council unanimously passed a resolution deploring the rising in Dublin, expressing satisfaction existing in their town, and trusting that the clemency of the Crown might be extended to the misguided men. They trusted that the work of the Constitutional Party for the last 30 years for Home Rule might receive no setback from this outburst.

A.O.H.—The Castlebar Division of the A.O.H. has passed a resolution condemning the action of the pro-German and Sinn Feiners in their mad attempt to wreck the Home Rule cause, assuring Mr. Redmond he possesses the full confidence of the people of Mayo, and appealing to him to come once more to the rescue of his unfortunate country.

CASTLEBLANEY.

Urban Council.—Resolution: "That we deplore the lamentable rising in Dublin during Easter week, involving terrible loss of life and

property, and sympathise with the relatives of those who lost their lives through that tragic occurrence ; and, further, as this act of madness is calculated to throw back the national cause, we reiterate our emphatic confidence in John Redmond as the Leader of the Irish people, and appeal to him to use his influence with the Government to have mercy on those whom they now hold as prisoners."

CASTLEREA.

Board of Guardians.—Resolution : "That we join the many other public bodies in Ireland in expressing our strong condemnation of the outrages committed in the name of liberty by irresponsible men, who in no way represented the vast majority of the people of Ireland ; that we deplore the loss of life and property, the destruction of so many of the buildings in the Irish capital and the many other irreparable losses that our country has sustained by the misguided action of men who ignored the advice of Ireland's trusted Leader ; and that we tender to Mr. John Redmond our unswerving support to the policy he has hitherto advocated, and assure him that he is now more endeared than ever to the hearts of the Irish people."

CLARA (KING'S CO.).

A.O.H.—At a meeting of the Division No. 981, Clara, King's Co., the members passed a resolution expressing their confidence in, and tendering their support to, Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party, especially at the present critical time.

CLARE.

At the weekly Court at Ennis, Mr. George M'Elroy, R.M., who presided, said he could not use words good enough to describe the admirable conduct of the people of Clare during the crisis. As far as he knew, there had been no disturbances of any kind or sort. He thought they would thank the National Volunteers who in Ennis, Kildysa and other places came forward and were ready to assist the police in quelling disturbance. Last, but not least, they should thank the people of the county who had showed their great good sense and loyalty. Any sympathy held with the Sinn Fein movement must now surely have evaporated, after they saw how the movement had been engineered by a crowd of criminal lunatics—visionary schoolmasters, cranks, and nonentities of all descriptions; and those few who had professed sympathy with this movement would now, he hoped, see the wisdom of ranging themselves solidly under the leadership

of Mr. John Redmond, and that dissension amongst them would cease and unity would prevail.

CLONMEL.

The Clonmel Rural Council passed a resolution condemning the Sinn Fein revolt as criminal folly, and reiterating their confidence in the Irish Party.

CORK.

Council of the Cork Employers' Association.—Resolution : " That the Council view with indignation and horror the shameful outrages which have been committed in Dublin and certain other parts of Ireland by a misguided and irresponsible section of the community, unable to distinguish between liberty and licence, and without any conceivable grievance whatever. The Council desire to humbly convey to His Most Gracious Majesty the King the expression of their unfailing loyalty."

CRAUGHWELL, Co. GALWAY.

" On behalf of the U.I.L. and National Volunteers of Craughwell, Co. Galway, we desire to offer to you our sympathy in the great misfortune that has befallen our country by the misguided and insane action of irresponsible and

unrepresentative men who have ever been the enemies of the best interests of the Irish people, Home Rule and the Irish Party. We feel that it will be a consolation to you to know that although the so-called rising took place in our neighbourhood, the people of Craughwell took their stand by the authorities, and assisted them to beat off a threatened invasion of the little town. As soon as the rebels mobilised in our vicinity, we assembled the National Volunteers, and took up a favourable position, and remained at our post until the band removed off after a stay of three days. Had it not been for our action in mobilising so quickly, the young men of this part of the county would have been forced to join them through fear and pressure, and the rebels had even captured two of our members and brought them into camp, but on hearing of our determined action they immediately released them. We now place our services at your disposal, and are prepared to stand by you, and to take up any duty which you in your wisdom may direct for the maintenance of law and order and good of our poor country."

DROGHEDA.

At a special meeting of the Drogheda Corporation, the Mayor presiding, the following resolution was unanimously adopted: "That this

Corporation, the majority of whose members have been identified from the days of O'Connell with the constitutional movement for the obtaining of self-government for Ireland, desires to place on record its condemnation of the recent futile and deplorable occurrences in Dublin and elsewhere, by which men who have been the avowed enemies of the Irish Constitutional movement have sought to inflict grave injury on that movement; and we desire to tender to Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party this expression of our continued confidence in them and the means and methods they have employed so successfully to secure Home Rule for our country."

DUBLIN.

Dublin and Counties Liberal Association.—At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Dublin and Counties Liberal Association, the following resolutions were unanimously passed:

"That we desire to express our horror at the sad events of the past weeks, and to place on record our unswerving loyalty to the Throne and Empire. We rejoice to know that the vast majority of our fellow-countrymen have stood loyally by the authorities in the hour of sadness and danger. Now that the insurrection has been

put down, we earnestly trust that those responsible for the peace of the country will administer justice with every desire to show mercy to the young and misguided."

Chamber of Commerce.—The Council unanimously adopted the following resolutions :

"The Council of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce desire to express deep sympathy with all law-abiding citizens who sustained personal injuries or the loss of relatives during the recent rebellious outbreak in the city. That this Council hereby forms itself into a Committee to co-operate with other bodies in securing adequate and prompt relief for those whose property or means of livelihood have been destroyed by lawless acts or by the military authorities whilst engaged in the restoration of order."

"That this Council desires to express to the military and naval authorities their appreciation of the prompt and successful action taken by His Majesty's forces to suppress the rising, and their great regret that so many officers and men should have been killed and wounded."

Rotary Club.—Resolution : "The Rotary Club, Dublin, representative of 110 distinct trades and professions in the city, expresses its horror and indignation at the late rising, which

has entailed such terrible loss of life and property in our city, and our unfeigned thankfulness at its speedy suppression."

Presbytery of Dublin.—Resolution: "The Presbytery, in view of recent events, reaffirms the unalterable loyalty of its people towards the King's person and his throne, and is grateful to God that the insurrection has been speedily suppressed. The Presbytery expresses its horror at the recent outbreak of rebellion in this city and some other parts of Ireland. Having regard to the facts that the organisers of the movement were in league with the foes of liberty, against whom the Empire, with its Allies, is fighting, and that many innocent lives have been lost, deeds of outrage perpetrated, and property to an alarming extent destroyed in the course of the rebellion, the Presbytery recognises the necessity of just measures of repression. As a Court of Christ's Church, the Presbytery does not forget the claims of mercy. As to those claims, in so far as they are pleaded on behalf of the misguided among the rebels, the Presbytery declares its confidence that the authorities will give its due place to mercy, while safeguarding the future security of the country. The Presbytery expresses its gratitude to the military who so bravely defended the lives and liberties of the

citizens, and records its distress at the loss of life among both officers and men. It conveys its deep sympathy to the families of its people who have suffered bereavement, and lost their property, or employment, through the rebellion."

DUNDALK.

Urban Council.—Resolution: "That as we believe that many of the young men and lads who were induced to take part in the recent unfortunate proceedings were led into those courses in ignorance of the real meaning of the Sinn Fein movement, as now disclosed, we strongly endorse the appeal made by Mr. Redmond for clemency in dealing with those victims of thoughtless credulity, more especially as such a course will tend towards the speedier creation of better feeling and lessening bitter memories likely to be evoked by drastic action."

Town Tenants' League, Dundalk Branch, with a membership of 500, deeply deplore Dublin events, and renew confidence in your leadership.

DUNGARVAN.

Guardians.—A resolution was adopted deeply deploring the recent happenings in Dublin and expressing whole-hearted confidence in the policy of Mr. John Redmond as President of the

National Volunteers, and pledging themselves to do all in their power to uphold the peace and goodwill of our country.

ENNISCORTHY.

At the meeting of the Enniscorthy Urban Council the following resolution was adopted :—

"That we condemn in the strongest possible manner the action of a few irresponsible individuals and dupes of German intrigue who brought dishonour on our town and district by the recent Sinn Fein rising and commandeering of traders' property ; and once again we renew our unabated confidence in Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., and the Irish Party in their constitutional movement."

FERMOY.

The Fermoy Urban Council, by unanimous resolution, condemn the deplorable Sinn Fein revolt, and endorse the action of Mr. Redmond in demanding clemency for the prisoners.

GALWAY.

Urban Council.—Resolved : "That this Council desires to place on record its utmost abhorrence and condemnation of the deeds just perpetrated in Ireland under the Sinn Fein Organisation, and at the same time to tender to the naval, military

and police authorities its very best thanks for the services rendered by them, as a result of which the city of Galway was saved from disturbance. This Council also desires to reaffirm its confidence in Mr. John Redmond, M.P., and the Irish Party."

Academic Council of University College.—Resolution : " We learnt with horror of the recent attempt on the part of irresponsible individuals to upset by force of arms the Government of the country, and express our profoundest sorrow at the lamentable loss of life which has resulted therefrom, and at the disgrace and dishonour inflicted upon Ireland."

County Council.—" That the Galway County Council desires to express its condemnation of the recent disturbances of social order brought about by irresponsible persons, whereby great damage has been done to the material prosperity and prospects of Ireland, and numbers of simple, uneducated peasants have been cajoled and threatened into open defiance of the law ; we resent most of all the outrage upon the honour and dignity of Ireland, and the attempt which has been made to dishonour her pledge solemnly given by her responsible leader, Mr. Redmond ; we rejoice that this dastardly attempt has failed, and that the people of Ireland have shown by

their conduct in this crisis that Ireland is determined that her word shall be faithfully kept ; we tender to Mr. Redmond the fullest assurances of our sympathy and support in the present trying circumstances."

Ancient Order of Hibernians.—"That this Division, A.O.H. (B.O.E.), deeply regret the deplorable outbreak of a section of our fellow-countrymen. That we again renew our confidence in Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Party to gain our ideals by his constitutional policy. That we call on the Irish Party to exert their influence so that our misguided countrymen shall not be harshly dealt with."

City Volunteers.—Resolution : "That we, the members of the Galway City National Volunteers, hereby place on record our abhorrence at the recent wicked and criminal rebellion in Ireland, which we believe was instigated and encouraged by foreign enemies of our country to promote their own selfish ends, and congratulate the authorities on their firm action in suppressing the outbreak so quickly and thus saving many valuable lives as well as much destruction of property throughout the country ; that we believe the great majority of those who took part in the rebellion had no conception of the foolhardiness of their action and were either

duped or intimidated into such criminal folly, and therefore we earnestly appeal to all Irish representatives in Parliament to use their best endeavours with the Government to exercise clemency towards the great bulk of those who have been made prisoners. That we hereby renew our confidence in our National President, Mr. John Redmond, M.P., and assure him of our continued loyalty to the cause which he represents, and of our unbounded faith in the wisdom and sagacity of his leadership."

GLENISLAND.

Resolution: "That we, the people of Glenisland, strongly reprobate the imprudent and highly criminal conduct of an insignificant section of misguided men in plunging our country into the horrors of internecine strife. We hereby pledge our loyalty and adhesion to the principles and policy adopted by the Irish Party in this terrible crisis in our country's welfare."

KILCONNELL (CO. GALWAY).

A.O.H.—Resolution: "That we express our detestation of, and horror at, the recent armed outbreak in Ireland, that we again repeat the expression of our warmest confidence in and unwavering support of the policy of the Irish

Party, led by Mr. John Redmond, and that we appeal to the leaders of the Party to use their influence with the Government to secure lenient treatment for the rank and file of the Sinn Feiners, the great majority of whom were misguided young fellows who were misled by designing men."

KINCORA.

The following resolution has been adopted by the Kincora Corps of the National Volunteers :—

"That we, the members of the Kincora Corps, Irish National Volunteers, hereby declare our loyalty to Mr. John E. Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party, and desire to offer our services for any emergencies."

KINSALE.

Resolved : "That we, the Kinsale Urban District Council condemn in the strongest possible manner the insane and disastrous conduct of those dupes in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland of the German Government in plunging our country into bloodshed and riot, thereby causing the sacrifice of many innocent lives as well as much loss to property ; that we beg to tender to his Majesty King George and his Government our hearty and loyal support in restoring order in Ireland and bringing the war with Germany to a speedy and victorious termination."

LIMERICK.

Resolution : " That in view of the occurrences which have taken place in Dublin, we, the Limerick City Regiment of National Volunteers, take the opportunity offered by this, our first meeting since these regrettable happenings, of once more renewing our implicit confidence in the Irish leader and his colleagues ; and that we express our absolute and unqualified determination to follow the leadership and advice of Mr. Redmond, and act whenever and in whatever way required, up to the spirit and the terms of the attitude he has taken up and the policy he has laid down regarding the situation."

LOUGHREA.

At the weekly meeting of the Loughrea Board of Guardians, the following resolution was passed unanimously :—

" That in common with the vast majority of our fellow-countrymen, we deplore the occurrences in Dublin and other parts of Ireland during the past week, which resulted in the death of many innocent persons and the destruction of much property ; we regret that many of our young countrymen were the dupes of German agents, and the enemies of the country, and for those of the rank and file of the insurgents we

plead for mercy. We desire to convey to Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Party our whole-hearted support for the constitutional movement for Home Rule, and we assure him that at no time in his leadership has he held a stronger or more affectionate place in the minds of his countrymen."

MANORHAMILTON (LEITRIM).

Manorhamilton District Council passed a resolution of confidence in the Irish Parliamentary Party in supporting the Allies and condemning "the action of the mischievous rebels in causing such bloodshed in Dublin at the instigation of Sir Roger Casement, who has betrayed Ireland and the British Empire for German gold."

MIDLETON.

Resolution: "That we deplore the unhappy outbreak in Dublin and elsewhere in Ireland, involving as it does serious lamentable loss of life and destruction of valuable property; that we again express our entire confidence in the policy of Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party."

NEW ROSS.

At a meeting of the New Ross Board of Guardians a resolution was unanimously passed

condemning the conduct of the Sinn Feiners as outrageous, disgraceful, and blackguardly. It continued, " We place implicit faith and trust in our able and trusted leader, Mr. John E. Redmond, and his Party, and we unreservedly place ourselves in his hands as our leader, knowing full well that with the assistance of the Irish Party he will carefully and consistently watch the interests of the Irish people, so that by reason of the acts of these 'worse-than-Hun parties' the whole Irish race will not be disgraced and branded as traitors and rebels."

RATHDRUM.

Resolution : " That we, the Rathdrum Board of Guardians, place implicit faith and trust in our able and trusted leader, Mr. John Redmond, and his Party, and we unreservedly place ourselves in his hands as our leader, knowing full well that with the assistance of the Irish Party he will carefully and consistently watch the interests of the Irish people, particularly in this hour of their country's trouble."

SLIGO.

The North Sligo Executive of the United Irish League, at their meeting, passed a vote of confidence in Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party.

The resolution was passed on the motion of the Mayor. The Magherow Branch of the League passed a similar resolution.

SWINFORD.

At the meeting of the Swinford Board of Guardians, a resolution was unanimously passed, protesting against the outrages, and expressing unabated confidence in Mr. Redmond and the Party.

TEMPLEMORE.

Resolution: "That we, the members of the Templemore Urban Council, deeply deplore the crisis in Dublin and elsewhere, and we take this opportunity of re-affirming our confidence in Mr. John E. Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party."

TRAMORE.

Resolved: "That we deplore with horror the outbreak in Dublin which brings the blush of shame to every honest Irishman. We have every confidence in John Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party by constitutional means bringing Ireland into the full possession of her rights. That we tender to the Lord Mayor and citizens of Dublin our sympathy at the destruction of life and property in Dublin."

TULLAMORE.

Resolution: "That this Council record their condemnation of the recent deplorable outbreak in Dublin, which they believe to be gravely detrimental to the real political and industrial interests of Ireland, and that we call upon all Nationalist Irishmen to support Mr. John Redmond's constitutional policy."

TULLOW.

At the monthly meeting of the Tullow (Co. Carlow) branch of the A.O.H. the following resolution was passed unanimously: "That we, the members of the Tullow branch of the A.O.H., take this opportunity of expressing our complete and continued confidence in the Irish Parliamentary Party, and in their distinguished leader, Mr. John Redmond, who has for so many years shown so much wisdom, prudence, foresight, and great statesmanlike qualities; that while deploring and condemning the recent tragic occurrences in Dublin and in some other parts of the country, we earnestly request Mr. Redmond to use his best endeavours to secure all possible clemency for the misguided young men who took part in them."

TYRONE.

"Congratulations from South Tyrone Nationalists on vindication of your policy. Proud to say never before in your long and distinguished career have you enjoyed more whole-hearted support and confidence than now on exposure of your opponents."

WESTMEATH COUNTY COUNCIL.

Resolved: "That we deeply deplore the disturbances which have taken place in Dublin and other parts of Ireland. These disturbances, we are convinced, have been machined against the best interests of Ireland and in opposition to the authority of the leader of the Irish people. We hereby reaffirm our entire confidence in Mr. J. E. Redmond and the Irish Parliamentary Party, and in the constitutional movement as carried on by them, and we resolve to co-operate by every means in our power with the lawful authorities in maintaining the peace of the county. We call upon all citizens to join in our co-operation."

WEXFORD.

At a special meeting of the Wexford Corporation it was resolved: "That inasmuch as a small and insignificant section of Irishmen have

at the bidding of the German Government, taken up an attitude of armed hostility towards the Sovereign and people of this country, we, the Mayor and Municipal Council of Wexford, in special meeting assembled as representing the sensible and loyal inhabitants of the town, emphatically repudiate the action of these misguided Irishmen who have allowed themselves to be led into rebellion through the persuasion of paid foreign emissaries, and we take this, the earliest opportunity, to reiterate our allegiance to the Throne and Government in accordance with the settled and consistent policy of the distinguished leader of the Irish people, Mr. John E. Redmond, M.P., and his trustworthy followers in Parliament; and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Right Hon. the Prime Minister, to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, and Mr. John E. Redmond."

Resolutions of a similar character and expressing implicit confidence in the Irish Party, have been passed by the Drumconrath, Co. Meath, U.I.L.; New Ross Urban Council; Tullow U.I.L.; Athy Board of Guardians; Ardee Board of Guardians; Carrickmacross A.O.H.;

Avoca A.O.H. ; the Roscommon D.C. ; Killarney U.D.C. ; Cootehill R.D.C. ; Tralee R.D.C. ; Bailieboro',Carrick-on-Shannon, Manorhamilton, Clonalkilty, Skibbereen, Castlecomer and Tipperary Guardians ; Balrothery D.C. ; Beragh (Co. Tyrone) A.O.H. ; Clifden Board of Guardians ; Dunshaughlin R.D.C. ; Leitrim Branch of U.I.L. ; Killeshandle U.I.L. ; Exec. of the Tipperary Co. Board of the A.O.H. ; Claremorris D.C. ; Crossbeg and Ballymurrin (Enniscorthy) U.I.L. ; Navan Guardians ; Listowel U.D.C.

IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Redmond has received the following messages from various parts of England in connection with the Sinn Fein rising :—

LONDON IRISH NATIONALISTS.

Resolution : "That this meeting of London Irish Nationalists expresses its strongest condemnation of the wickedness and insanity of the recent rising of Sinn Feiners in Ireland, and that it heartily approves of the attitude of Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Party, and reiterates its complete confidence in them."

BIRMINGHAM.

"We, the representatives of all the Irish Societies in Birmingham—viz., United Irish League, Irish National Foresters, the Eighty-Two Committee, and Ancient Order of Hibernians—deeply deplore and emphatically condemn the rebellion and unpatriotic conduct of certain people in Ireland, who represent an infinitesimal portion of the population, and who, without the faintest shadow of reason or the slightest ground for complaint, have been the cause of disorder

and disunion at a time when all the forces of the country are needed to meet the common enemy.

"We also pray that law and order may be speedily restored, and we declare our united resolve to support Mr. John Redmond and the Irish Party in their sane and patriotic policy of assisting the British Government in its efforts to quell the rebellion and to prevent by the adoption of prudent and precautionary measures such disturbances of the peace for the future."

LIVERPOOL BRANCH, U.I.L.

"That this meeting of the Liverpool and District Committee of the United Irish League, speaking on behalf of the Irish Nationalists of Liverpool, Bootle, Birkenhead, and South-West Lancashire, places on record its strongest possible condemnation of the insane action of a small section of irresponsible Irishmen in Ireland during the last few days. We denounce their proceedings as being a treacherous outrage upon Ireland and Ireland's cause and also against that true liberty, in defence of which, in this war against German barbarism, thousands of Irishmen have died, and hundreds of thousands of Irishmen are fighting at present. We again affirm more strongly than ever our steadfast loyalty to the cause of the Allies and the Empire

in the present life and death struggle on behalf of our own existence and that of the freedom of small nations. We renew our whole-hearted pledge of complete confidence in Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party, and we invite Mr. Redmond to address a great public demonstration of fellow-countrymen at the earliest convenient date in this, the chief stronghold of Irish Nationalism in Great Britain."

TYNESIDE.

"The Irishmen of Tyneside, who have recruited a purely Irish brigade for the defence of Ireland, the Empire, and the liberties of Europe are with you heart and soul in this crisis. We note with gratitude your statement in the House of Commons on Thursday. The statements expressed therein are those of every Irishman who has the destiny of his country at heart."

U.I.L., DANIEL O'CONNELL BRANCH, WALSALL.

Resolved: "That we, the Irishmen and women of Walsall regard with sorrow and detestation the lawless and unpatriotic conduct of the Sinn Feiners during the past week in Ireland; that we tender our sincere sympathy to Mr. John Redmond and beg to assure him of our confidence

that under his wise leadership the cause to which he has given his life's work will emerge triumphantly from the dangers which are threatening it."

U.I.L., CONSETT BRANCH.

At a meeting of the above branch the following resolution was passed unanimously: "That we deplore the crisis in Dublin and reaffirm our confidence in your leadership."

U.I.L., HYDE BRANCH.

The members of the above branch desire to place on record their abhorrence at the insane conduct of the instigators of the recent revolt in Ireland, and sincerely deplore the consequent bloodshed and desolation occasioned thereby, and also to assure you of their confidence in the attitude you have adopted in this most trying crisis.

U.I.L., SALFORD BRANCH.

Resolution: "That we unhesitatingly condemn the action of the Sinn Feiners in Dublin in this unparalleled crisis as unpatriotic and prejudicial to the best interests of Ireland and the Irish people at home and abroad, and we once again reiterate our confidence in the Irish Leader, Mr. John Redmond, and in the course of action

he has advised in the present war, as we believe that advice has resulted in Irishmen (now that a Home Rule Bill is on the Statute Book) showing that they have forgiven and forgotten the result of English misrule in the past, and cemented their friendship with the English democracy by fighting side by side with dash and valour in all the theatres of the present war, and helping to preserve the solidarity of the British Empire and the freedom of small nations from a most brutalising militarism."

U.I.L., LONDON WOMEN'S BRANCH.

At the weekly meeting of the London Women's Branch of the United Irish League, the following Resolution was unanimously carried :—"That the Irishwomen of London view with abhorrence and absolute detestation the recent rising in Ireland by a handful of misguided fanatics, whose voice or influence do not count, but whose dastardly action at the moment when our gallant countrymen are freely shedding their blood and giving their lives for the just cause of humanity and civilisation has caused a shock of righteous indignation ; we desire to express our sympathy with our only recognised leader, Mr. John E. Redmond, and the Irish Party, and our unshaken confidence in his states-

manlike leadership throughout the time of war; and we desire our assistant secretary to forward a copy of this resolution to Mr. Redmond and the Irish Party and also to the English, Irish and American Press."

BRISTOL BRANCH U.I.L.

Resolution carried unanimously: "That we, the members of the Bristol (Joseph Devlin) Branch express our deep sympathy with Mr. John Redmond, M.P., under the present circumstances in Ireland, and pledge ourselves to support every action he may deem necessary upon the matter."

U.I.L., EMMET BRANCH, MERTHYR TYDFIL.

Resolved: "That we, the members of the Robert Emmet Branch of the United Irish League, Merthyr Tydfil, emphatically protest against the senseless action of a small section of the people of Ireland, known as Sinn Feiners. Furthermore, we declare our absolute confidence in Mr. John Redmond, who has pledged the loyalty of the Irish people to the Empire in its great crisis."

MANCHESTER HIBERNIANS.

The Manchester and District County Board are desirous of conveying to you their sincere expressions of sympathy with you and your colleagues in the trying circumstances you must have experienced as a result of the deplorable action of the Sinn Feiners in Ireland. My Board has passed a resolution to this effect, and also their strong condemnation of the Sinn Feiners which has been circulated in the Press here. Further, we have organised meetings of the Divisions of the Order, who have passed similar resolutions and published same during last week. We hope that our action will encourage you to continue your splendid and wise constitutional policy for real Irish freedom.

A.O.H., DIVISION 806, SALFORD.

At the monthly meeting of the members of the above division, the following resolution was unanimously passed :—

"That this meeting of the Salford members of the Ancient Order of Hibernians regard the deplorable and unwarrantable action of the Sinn Feiners in Ireland with detestation. That the same has been mooted to endanger the fulfilment of real Irish freedom, so ably achieved by the constitutional methods of our leader,

Mr. J. E. Redmond, and the Irish Parliamentary Party, and that we tender our sympathy to Mr. Redmond in this crisis, and renew our confidence in his leadership and attitude with the cause of the Allies."

A.O.H. DIVISION No. 544 PENICUIK.

A special meeting of the Penicuik Division of the A.O.H. was held on Sunday, April 30th. The following resolutions were carried unanimously: "That this meeting deplores the outbreak of the Sinn Feiners in Dublin and considers them the real menace to Irish liberty. That this meeting once more desires to place on record our unabated confidence in Mr. J. E. Redmond and the Party which he leads; and also our determination to assist him by every means within our power to carry out the pledges which he gave on behalf of the overwhelming majority of the Irish race on August 4th, 1914, *i.e.*, to assist the Government in carrying out the war to a successful issue."

OLDHAM.

Irish Nationalists of Oldham strongly repudiate action of Sinn Feiners, who, by their action are endeavouring to undo the good work that has been accomplished by you and the

Irish Parliamentary Party in the past, and we hereby place on record our fullest confidence in you and the Irish Parliamentary Party.

BURNLEY.

Irishmen of Burnley deplore the state of affairs in Dublin, and assure you that you have the support and loyalty of the Irishmen of Burnley.

U.I.L. of GREAT BRITAIN.

Resolution passed by Irish Parliament Branch of the United Irish League of Great Britain: "That this meeting endorses Mr. Redmond's stirring condemnation of the crime which a misguided minority of our countrymen has perpetrated against the honour and welfare of Ireland, and expresses its unabated confidence in the leadership of the Irish Parliamentary Party."

FROM IRISHMEN THROUGHOUT THE EMPIRE.

AUSTRALASIA.

MESSAGE FROM AUSTRALIA.

"Members Commonwealth Government here express deep regret at the rebellious outbreak in Dublin. Are confident that great bulk Irish people disavow and deplore proceedings.

"Representative Irishmen here, as well as Roman Catholic Bishops, all Irish born, denounce and repudiate criminality of Dublin fanatics.—MUNRO FERGUSON."

Victoria.—Irish in Victoria view with abhorrence outbreak Dublin of futile meaningless rebellion, and sympathise with National Party in cruel struggle against criminal efforts of insignificant minority to thwart noble object of peace reconciliation almost accomplished. Such fanatics betray gross ingratitude for benefit Ireland received through long agitation and generosity of Irish abroad, as well as valuable help rendered by British and other democracies. Brave Irish soldiers are dying at front that their

country may prosper. Their nobility of sacrifice should shame all wreckers of Ireland's future. Guilt of horrible bloodshed Dublin be on misguided leaders of outbreak.

West Australia.—Irishmen West regret Dublin affair. Confidence in you.

Melbourne.—Celtic Club views with horror the attempt of traitors to destroy the good name of Ireland. Be assured of our lasting sympathy in your efforts for Home Rule and Empire.

Sydney.—Executives of Australia, Catholic Guild and Irish National Foresters, comprising 10,000 members, in conference assembled, deplore the uprising of an irresponsible minority and express entire confidence and support to Irish Parliamentary Party and belief in ultimate success British arms.

South Australia.—Irishmen of South Australia endorse Melbourne cable *re* Dublin riot.

Queensland.—"Queensland Irishmen condemn and deplore the disturbances in Ireland and reaffirm their confidence in the leaders and members of the Irish Parliamentary Party. Irish soldiers in the present war by their valour and devotion have demonstrated their loyalty to the Empire."

New Zealand.—" New Zealand Hibernians, in annual conference assembled, abhor and regret the Dublin disturbances. Sympathy and renewed confidence in Irish leader and Party."

Perth, West Australia.—" The Hibernians of Australasia publicly denounce the Sinn Feiners, that paltry crowd of firebrands and avowed enemies of Nationalist Ireland. The Society sympathises with yourself and Party, while offering imperishable loyalty to King and Empire."

Kalgoorlie.—" We view with abhorrence Dublin rebellion, and emphasize our loyalty to King and country, having full confidence in John Redmond."

Boulder City.—" We, the Irish residents of Boulder City, view with horror and intense indignation the recent rebellious happenings in Ireland, and beg to assure you of our absolute confidence in your wise leadership, and of our sincerest loyalty to King and Empire."

Secdonal.—" Pro-German rioting disgusts Home Rulers here. Take heart. Our race is with you and gallant countrymen at front."

Wellington, N.Z.—" Deepest sympathy with you in present trouble. Unfortunate occurrence. Dublin tends unjustifiably to cast disgrace on

our country and discredit us abroad. We desire to express gratitude to English and Scotch friends who have extended greatest kindness and sympathy during these troubles. It is obvious that the movement aimed to discredit the representatives of Ireland."

Canterbury, N.Z.—" Mass meeting of Irishmen of South Canterbury offer deepest loyalty and full co-operation in defence of Ireland's fair name, and unite with you in expressing detestation of the disturbances in Ireland, which disgrace Ireland's sons, who have sacrificed so much for Empire."

Otago, N.Z.—" Irishmen of North Otago, New Zealand, express their sorrow at the revolution in Ireland. They express unswerving loyalty and devotion to Great Britain and the Allies, and perfect confidence in the Irish leaders and British Prime Minister."

SOUTH AFRICA.

PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE.

"Accept my heartfelt sympathy and regret that a small section in Ireland is jeopardising the great cause. I hope the Irish people will follow your line of action, and that your policy will be successful.—LOUIS BOTHA."

Grahamstown, Cape Colony.—"Grahamstown Irishmen rejoice in the complete collapse of the rebellion, and congratulate yourself, the National Volunteers, and the Irish people on the loyalty which Ireland has shown to the Empire."

King William's Town, Cape Colony.—"Redmond, House of Parliament, London.—Accept congratulations for your firm stand against rebellion. We pray for your success.—Irish Association."

Molteno, Cape Colony.—"Molteno Irishmen strongly deprecate rebellion. Are with you in upholding the interests of the Empire."

Capetown.—"Hibernians deplore present position Dublin. Assure you renewed confidence."

Port Elizabeth.—"To John Redmond, Dublin. You have our complete confidence.—Irishmen."

Durban.—"Durban Irishmen disgusted with affairs in Dublin, but assure you of their renewed confidence. View with horror recent disturbances. All here strongly support you in your stand for the Empire.—Irishmen, Munitions Works, Kynoch's, Umbogintwini."

Kimberley.—"Members of Irish community in Kimberley of every shade of political opinion wish to express loyalty to the Crown and their abhorrence at the revolt in Ireland. They offer their whole-hearted support to you in placing your influence at the disposal of the Government."

Pretoria.—"Pretoria Irishmen condole you and country on disgraceful action of rebellious handful."

Pilgrim's Rest, Transvaal.—"Irishmen of Pilgrim's Rest loyally support you."

Fifth South African Infantry.—"We, Irishmen of all creeds and political sentiments, of the Union of South Africa, now serving with the 5th South African Infantry in German East Africa, wish to express our indignation at the criminally disloyal acts committed by a certain section of the Sinn Fein Society, which have thrown a stigma on our native land and our sons the world over. You have our whole-hearted

sympathy and support in this unfortunate crisis, knowing what you have done and are doing to bring about a happy and contented Ireland."

FROM IRISHMEN IN AMERICA.

NEW YORK IRISH.

At a meeting of the New York branch of the United Irish League of America, attended by more than 300 Irishmen, the following resolution, submitted by Mr. John J. O'Connell, was unanimously adopted: "The members of the United Irish League have the sincerest sympathy for those misguided men who have shed their blood in the streets of Dublin in the sincere belief that they were doing the greatest endeavour for the beloved motherland, even though their efforts were misguided and ill-judged; although they deplore the lack of insight and judgment which brought them to a course of action which could only bring anguish to the Irish heart and greatly prejudice the cause for which a forty-five year peaceable contest has been waged, and which was on the threshold of actual fruition. We condemn these men of our race in this country who are responsible for duping our unfortunate brothers in Ireland into sacrificing their lives in what they believe to be for the good of their country, but which the plotters knew must necessarily be an

abortive attempt, and could only result in travail and anguish to the Irish people, and probably mean a postponement of the operation of the Home Rule Act. And as residents in and citizens of this American Republic, we condemn these plotters for their disloyalty to America, a disloyalty born either of a failure to appreciate their duty to the Republic or, what is worse, from the sordid and disreputable motive either of German bribe funds or their desire to retain their precarious livelihood or their political advantage. We assure the people of the United States that our loyalty to the Government of the United States is sincere and undivided, and that we do and will support their Government with our hearts, our minds, and our lives in any position it may take for the honour and well-being of the American people, and against any and every Power and potentate whatsoever on the face of the earth."

Mr. Patrick Egan also presented resolutions, which were adopted unanimously, as follows: "Resolved: That this meeting of the New York United Irish League and affiliated societies, representing eighty-eight branches, do hereby express our unqualified sorrow and amazement at the unpardonable wrong now being

perpetrated against the whole people of Ireland by the present insane attempt at insurrection—a futile effort instigated solely by the unscrupulous agents of foreign intriguers, participated in by a group of unreasonable enthusiasts, combined with a rank and file made up largely of the communistic disciples of the unspeakable Jim Larkin, who for many years has been trying to ruin Ireland's manufacturing industries, trade and finance, through his fomentation of unnecessary strikes, and financed by foreign funds." Resolved further: "That we tender to our kith and kin in Ireland and to her national leaders our deepest sympathy in the terrible conditions that are being wantonly forced upon them by Prussian Junkerdom; and that we especially congratulate Ireland's National Volunteers, under the leadership of John E. Redmond, upon their magnificent stand for Ireland's honour, vital interest, and her future glory in this solemn crisis in her long struggle. And we hereby reaffirm our allegiance and undivided support of John E. Redmond and the Honourable Woodrow Wilson, President of the United States."

BOSTON, MASS.

"No doubt of Irish sentiment in Boston. It ardently supports you and Party.—Boston Central Branch United Irish League.—M'Laughlin, President."

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY.

"Overwhelming majority Irish in America follow you and Devlin. O Dia Sair Ayrin."

INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

"The Indianapolis Branch United Irish League, through its officers, sends you renewed assurances of confidence in your masterful leadership of the people of Ireland, especially in this deplorable crisis."

PORTLAND, OREGON.

"'Stab in the back' is what leading influential Oregon newspaper calls Sinn Fein treachery. Renewed confidence. Sympathy in the honour and loyalty of Irish nation. Sentiments people here.—Emmet, Callahan Branch, 170, United Irish League."

OTHER MESSAGES.

INDIA.

"Convinced that sensible Irishmen in India, and all the world over, sympathise with you and Party in this deplorable episode—soiling the name, gallantry, and loyalty of Ireland in our Empire's need.—ARCHBISHOP OF SIMLA."

BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Bamfield.—"Irishmen confidence your vindication our land."

TRINIDAD.

"Trinidad Irish deplore rising. Increased confidence in your leadership."

ROME.

"Two hundred Irishmen and women, residents in Rome, send deepest sympathy, loyalty to yourself and Party. Wishing you complete success."

SHANGHAI.

Meeting of Shanghai Irishmen unanimously resolve: "That we, Irishmen in China, look upon the disloyal action of a few of our compatriots with shame and horror."

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